

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Initially, applicants note that with the original application papers an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) was filed. At this time applicants have not received confirmation of consideration of the references cited in that properly filed IDS. For convenience, a copy of the filed IDS and the date-stamped filing receipt is submitted herein. Applicants respectfully request acknowledgement of the references cited therein be indicated by providing the Applicants with an initialed form PTO-1449.

Claims 13-33 are pending in this application. Claims 8-12 are canceled by the present response without prejudice and new claims 30-33 are presented for examination. Claims 8, 13, 14, 23, and 20 were objected to for informalities. Claims 8-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. patent 6,545,241 to Franchi et al. (herein "Franchi") in view U.S. patent 4,486,635 to de Calvino y Teijeiro. Claims 13-29 are allowed.

Initially, applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 13-29.

Addressing now the objection to claims 8, 13, 14, 23, and 28, that objection is traversed by the present response. More particularly, the above-noted claims are amended by the present response to address the objections noted in paragraph 3 of the Office Action. Applicants also note claims 14, 17, and 22 are amended by the present response to make minor clarifications, which are not believed to raise any issues of new matter or narrow those claims.

Addressing now the rejection of claims 8-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Franchi in view of de Calvino y Teijeiro, that rejection is traversed by the present response.

As noted above, claims 8-12 are canceled by the present response without prejudice and new claims 30-33 are presented for examination. New claims 30-33 have been written to

present subject matter allowable over Franchi in view of de Calvino y teijeiro. More specifically, new independent claims 30 and 32 are written to clarify the types of switching apparatus.

Specifically, new independent claim 30 recites “two switching devices including one circuit breaker and one disconnecting switch”, and further “a disconnecting switch including a contact...comprising electrodes adapted to be contacted with each other and separated from each other”. New independent claim 30 also recites “insulated control rods...housed in the insulated structure and...linked to the driving unit for connecting the driving unit to an operating unit”.

Franchi shows a combined structure of a circuit breaker and a circuit switch. However, Franchi fails to disclose or suggest a contact disposed in an insulated structure, and a control rod housing the insulated structure and the conductive container and linked to the driving unit for connecting the driving unit to an operating unit. Franchi also fails to disclose or suggest a gas type structure of an insulated container of a circuit breaker (disconnecting switch).

Further, no teachings in de Calvino y Teijeiro can overcome the deficiencies in Franchi, and de Calvino y Teijeiro further fails to disclose or suggest a structure in which a circuit breaker and a switching device are connected to one conductive container.

In such ways, new independent claim 30, and claim 31 dependent therefrom, are believed to distinguish over the applied art.

With respect to new independent claim 32, that claim also recites “two disconnecting switches each including a contact and an insulated container...said contact comprising electrodes”. New independent claim 32 further recites “at least one insulated control rod housing the insulated structure and the conductive container and linked to the driving unit for connecting a driving unit to an operating unit”. As discussed above, such features are


believed to clearly distinguish over Franchi in view of de Calvino y Teijeiro. Thereby, new independent claim 32, and claim 33 dependent therefrom, are also believed to distinguish over the applied art.

In view of these foregoing comments, applicants respectfully submit new claims 30-33 are also allowable.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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